



Discernment, Judgment, Forgiveness

an essay from
Master Yeshua

There is much to say about the concept of discernment and the comparison of discernment to judgment. It is important to recognize a continuum, and to understand when discernment slides into the first hint of judgment. So let us first define our terms. We will discuss forgiveness once we have clarified judgment and justice.

Discernment.

Discernment is perceptive analysis – a healthy feedback loop between the encased spirit/soul and the surrounding environment. One might think of it as a radar that functions on the physical, emotional and mental levels as well as, for the more advanced among you, the spiritual level. It is a radar. It is a feedback loop. It is an intelligent awareness.

Discernment as physical intelligence is illustrated by putting your hand into the middle of a flame and saying, "Oh! This burns." There is a physical intelligence that blends into the etheric. You would call it intuition, but it is a physical reaction, a physiological reaction to the surrounding vibrations and this is discernment. You can sense danger. You can sense joy and love. Discernment at the physical level.

You can take discernment to the emotional level or to the astral plane. Here you encounter things like fear, things like panic, things like an open-hearted love – not in the Divine definition, but in the more common human definition. You might have here a close friendship and happiness at an emotional level.

Mental discernment. When is someone trying to pull the wool over your eyes, as in an old saying. When is someone trying to flim-flam you? That's another saying. When is there deception? Now deception can also be at the emotional level, but let us stick with mental deception. Someone is telling you a fib, a lie. Someone is deceiving you. Discernment at the mental level.

This far, discernment is a survival mechanism. It is also a growth mechanism.

When you begin to discern your soul and your soul's influence on your behaviors, on your outlook, then that is a spiritual discernment. When you discern that the network of Oneness exists, when you integrate that awareness fully into your mental, emotional and physical life within the body encasement you are using in this incarnation, that is spiritual discernment. When you discern your place within the Oneness, this is spiritual discernment.

Discernment is the radar, the feedback loop, the assessment, the energetic, vibratory awareness. Where discernment leaves off, judgment begins.

Judgment

What do I have to say about judgment? This is something that most human beings exercise frequently. One could say that judgment can be beneficial and detrimental.

A beneficial judgment might protect you and those you love. Let's say you discern that someone is telling you a lie, someone is trying to lure you into an untruth. This is assessment, a physical, emotional, mental, spiritual energetic reaction. What was said doesn't settle right with you. Assessment and judgment are close.

Your judgment tells you that this person is attempting to lure you into something that is not in your best interest, your family's best interest, your friends' best interest or humanity's best interests. This is your judgment and you act on it. The decisive power that you possess because you have free will, says "No! I will not go there. I do not believe that. I am not doing that, thank you very much."

That is the beneficial side of judgment.

- Discernment: energetic, physiological reaction.
- Judgment: untruth.
- Free will: choice, action.

Now one could take it more finely that discernment is the connection with the intuition that says this doesn't resonate with truth. That could also be where discernment leaves off: this doesn't resonate with truth. That becomes discernment sliding into judgment.

Detrimental Judgment

The negative side of judgment, the more unhealthy side, the slippery slope side of judgment is to go beyond simple protection ("I will not

participate”) to pass judgment on the *purveyor* of this misleading statement. The slippery slope is when you turn and pass judgment on those who are lying, who are inciting hate or fear.

Your judgment says this person, these people are _____. You can fill in the blank. They are bad, they are to be hated, they are to be shunned. They are deceitful. They are unworthy. There are many words and every one of those words says, “These people are lesser than I am.”

Now, this judgment has to do with placing a value, not on what was said, not on its impact or potential impact on you, your family, your friends, your neighbors, your country, *but on the person who is delivering this message*. You judge this person to be inferior, to be of less value in God’s eyes.

You judge this person rather than – or in addition to – their message. They should be punished. They are not worthy to live, etc.

You pass judgment on the individual. And this judgment you pass, when you come out of this better, of a higher value than the person or the people you are judging, *that is when you had better think*. That is where we get to my teachings about the splinter in someone else’s eye when you do not notice the branch coming from your own.

Justice

How does this relate to the justice system, where on the human level those who are harming thru specific actions or neglect are called upon by their neighbors, their fellows to stand and be judged? The justice system. Well anyone who is working within the justice system will probably have elucidating insights into how much justice is handed out.

Justice is an interesting concept. It can exist on the same levels as does discernment: physical, emotional, mental, spiritual.

How can I define justice? The closest I will come is balance.

When you get into justice be careful, because the slippery slope here is vengeance – judgment turning to hate and vengeance . . . and calling itself justice.

Let us call justice by a better name: balance.

God’s Justice

God’s justice is implemented by each individual soul looking at their own behavior, their own decisions and choices and achieving a balance.

Justice with love and compassion, with an eye toward balance is entirely different from justice that is based on vengeance. Think about that.

Judgment can lead you thru justice to balance. Discernment, judgment, justice, balance is one path.

Discernment, judgment, vengeance is another. Discernment, judgment, anger, hatred, vengeance. Be very cautious. Be very, very cautious.

When you presume to pass judgment on another rather than to use judgment for your own best interest as it were, for your own growth, for the interest of someone else, be careful that your judgment is following the love, compassion, balance side. Unfortunately, that is all too infrequent. But it can be done. It can be done.

Forgiveness

And where in all this is forgiveness? What *is* forgiveness?

I'm certain that anyone interested in the concept of forgiveness can find several thousand pages written about forgiveness and I would be almost as certain that everyone reading this has their own perception of what forgiveness means to them.

I will let you find your own comfort level with the concept of forgiveness. My advice is that if you begin to say to someone else "you should" or "you must" you're very likely on the discernment, judgment, anger, hatred, vengeance path. When you are on that path, then the issue of forgiveness arises. For if you are on the judgment, love, compassion, balance path *there is nothing to forgive*. There is only to work with one another . . . there is only to give, to love, to work with.

It is when there is the anger, in some cases I would say self-pity even, that the cries for "Justice!" are cries for vengeance in disguise. When you have the cry for justice that is vengeance in disguise, you have anger that fuels hatred. That is the path where forgiveness, as a concept, is a means to put out the flames, to silence the cries for vengeance, to soothe the anger in the heart, to soothe the hatred.

Forgiveness is the concept that enables forward movement and a return to spiritual growth, a return to the realization of Oneness and the practice of living in harmony with Oneness. It is only on the discernment, judgment, anger, hatred, vengeance path that forgiveness arises as a concept. The steps along this detrimental path can be minor or very minor instances. My friend betrayed a confidence to another friend and I am angry and I am hurt, but I forgive them. I am willing to

put it aside. I am willing to continue the relationship. It is as if it had never happened.

There is an alternative path. A friend betrays a confidence. You learn about this and there is no anger, but rather curiosity. Why? What happened? What was the reason?

Maybe your discernment, judgment, free will said, "Oh! This is not someone I should share this kind of confidence with. Very well, I will simply learn and put this into my discernment and appreciate what it is that I value about that person to begin with and simply remember that this sort of confidence will not be shared with them again."

Or you may decide to talk to them and ask what they were thinking and why did they think that necessary. There might be a reason. But this is done with love and compassion and curiosity, not anger. Not the sense of betrayal that cries out for justice. *There is no forgiveness applicable in that case.* There is simply a balancing, a working out in love and compassion and moving forward.

We have much more dramatic examples of discernment and judgment going into anger, hatred, vengeance with laundry lists of what has been done and what needs to be righted. This can go very deep and very long into history. You can find examples within any given religious philosophy, any religious organization, any named religion.

You will find the cracks, the anger, the cries for justice that are their own vengeance in disguise. They are there. And you recognize them because they cause schisms and what was once one religious organization becomes two, three, four. Balance did not work. Or was not even tried. Balance based on love and compassion did not work. So there is a schism.

Maybe the schism is an "amicable divorce" and each group goes on their own way. But chances are, humans being humans, you will find the pain and the anger that go with the split and if those are not checked, then you will have openly – or under the covers – the wish to destroy the other inasmuch as the other's message is not true.

On that path is where you will find the need to forgive. Because forgiveness is a means, as I said, to dissipate the continuing need that is felt, the continuing cries for justice, the cries for vengeance you find in ethnic conflicts and national disputes as well as religious schisms. That is where forgiveness comes in.

That is what I have to say about discernment, judgment and forgiveness.

Blessings

My blessings upon you all. May your discernment be strong and healthy. May your judgments be based on love, compassion and the seeking of balance and harmony within the Oneness that is Creation.

Blessings
Yeshua

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